

In the claims:

Please amend claim 18 as follows:

18. (Amended) An isocyanate composition comprising:
- a masked isocyanate compound at least partially aliphatic, exhibiting an aliphatic backbone which comprises, in said backbone, at least one di- or polymethylene linkage, and no masked isocyanate functional groups carried by an endocyclic cycloaliphatic carbon, and
- a nonmasked cycloaliphatic isocyanate compound.

Please cancel claims 19-21.

Please amend claim 22 as follows:

22. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 18, wherein said masked isocyanate compound results from a polymethylene diisocyanate monomer, one (co)oligomer of said monomer or one (co)oligocondensate of said monomer.

Please amend claim 23 as follows:

23. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 18, wherein said polymethylene diisocyanate monomer is tetra-, penta- or hexamethylene diisocyanate, substituted at the most once.

Please amend claim 24 as follows:

24. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 22, wherein said (co)oligomer or (co)oligocondensate comprises at least one imidazolidinedione, isocyanuric, biuret, allophanate or polyol carbamate functional group.

Please cancel claim 28.

Please amend claim 32 as follows:

32. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 18, wherein the unmasked isocyanate compound and the masked isocyanate compound present a ratio in equivalents: unmasked isocyanate compound/ masked isocyanate of at most equal to 1.

Please amend claim 33 as follows

33. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 32, wherein the ratio is at most equal to 0.7.

Please amend claim 34 as follows

34. (Amended) A process for the preparation of a composition as defined in claim 18, wherein the unmasked isocyanate is mixed in the masked isocyanate which is in a molten state.

Please amend claim 36 as follows:

36. (Amended) A powder painting composition, comprising a composition as defined in claim 18.

Please amend claim 37 as follows:

37. (Amended) A powder coating composition, comprising a composition as defined in claim 18.

Please cancel claims 38 and 39.

Marked-up amended specification and claims according to 37 C.F.R. 1.121 are submitted in an attached document. Added matter is shown by underline and deleted matter is shown by strikethrough.